



S. 2484 - A bill to rename the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development as the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

FLOOR SITUATION

S. 2484 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT) on December 13, 2007. The Senate passed H.R. 2484 by unanimous consent on the same day.

The bill is expected to be considered on the floor on December 17, 2007.

SUMMARY

S. 2484 renames the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development as the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

BACKGROUND

Eunice Kennedy Shriver is the Executive Vice-President of the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation beginning in 1957. The Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation strives to improve the way society deals with its citizens who have intellectual disabilities, and to help identify and disseminate ways to prevent the causes of intellectual disabilities.

Under her leadership, the Foundation contributed to the establishment of the President Kennedy Committee on Mental Retardation in 1961 and the development of the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development in 1962.

In addition, Eunice Kennedy Shriver is a founder and honorary chairperson of the Special Olympics International.

In 1984, Eunice Kennedy Shriver was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Ronald Reagan for her work on behalf of persons with intellectual disabilities. At the presentation, President Reagan said "With enormous conviction and unrelenting effort, Eunice Kennedy Shriver has labored on behalf of America's least powerful people, those with mental retardation...Her decency and goodness have touched the lives of many, and Eunice Kennedy Shriver deserves America's praise, gratitude, and love."

COST

This bill has not been scored by the Congressional Budget Office.

STAFF CONTACT

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